## BROADCASTER

## La Porte Police: July 4 safety is top of the list



06.27.11

The Fourth of July holiday weekend is one of fun times, family gatherings, and joyous celebrations. With parades, fireworks, good food, and relaxing music, we collectively enjoy the commemoration of our country's official day of independence. Therefore, to get the most out of the extended weekend, the La Porte Police Department is asking for the entire community's help in making sure each of us carry out safe celebrations.

As many people will be taking a vacation break from their normal work schedule, residents are reminded of the added fact that there will be extra vehicles and pedestrians along the roadways. Therefore, the police department encourages motorists to make sure your vehicle is in safe driving condition, watch your speed of travel, and avoid allowing alcohol to interfere with driving responsibilities. Equally important, if you are attending a celebration where alcohol will be served, please select a designated driver before attending the event. As an additional reminder, La Porte officers will be out in force, along with several other local and state agencies, as they conduct another DWI "No Refusal" weekend during the 4-day period.

Another area to monitor, concerns the use of fireworks. While fireworks are indeed an enjoyable part of the holiday, they too have the potential to cause damage or injury and should be respected. As a reminder, personal firework possession or usage is not allowed anywhere in the City of La Porte. Moreover, with the current drought in our region, the same rules apply throughout most areas in Harris and its surrounding counties. Nevertheless, if you plan to be near any type of fireworks display, make sure that children are at a safe distance and ensure that you have first aid kits nearby, should any unforeseen accident occur. As an additional reminder, residents should be aware that an individual can be held civilly liable for damages resulting from misuse of fireworks and, in certain circumstances, Texas law also holds parents liable for damages their children are found to have caused.

Whether at the annual City parade, activities at Sylvan Beach, area firework displays, or many of the other events that will grace the community throughout the upcoming extended-weekend period, the La Porte Police Department has committed to remain active throughout the area. LPPD Chief Ken Adcox stated that "The goal for La Porte Police is to have a zero-accident weekend and, with the help of all community members, our department believes the goal can be achieved." For more information regarding holiday safety, please contact the agency at 281-471-2141.